

Table Rock Billiard Saloon (Facade)
South Oregon Street
Jacksonville
Jackson County
Oregon

HABS No. ORE-123

HABS
ORE
15-JACVI
67-

PHOTOGRAPH

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. ORE-123

TABLE ROCK BILLIARD SALOON (FACADE)

Location: South Oregon Street, Jacksonville, Jackson County,
Oregon.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The name "Table Rock" was associated with several structures that stood on the same site. The first was a simple, square-facaded, frame bakery, illustrated on the Kuchel and Dressel lithograph of Jacksonville published in 1856.¹ Unlike most of the business names in Jacksonville, "Table Rock" is locally derived: it was the name given to a large volcanic ledge in the Rogue River Valley, first surveyed by James Clyman in 1845 and later the scene of a devastating attack on the Rogue Indians by the new settlers.²

The Table Rock Bakery was operated first by C.H. Miller and Company, a partnership of C.H. Miller, William Hesse, and John Wintjen. The partners also operated a butchery, grocery, stable, and farming operation.³ In 1857, Miller sold his share of the business to Kaspar K. Kubli,⁴ who, several days later, sold his interest to the other two partners.⁵ A year later, Hesse sold his half of the company to Herman von Helms,⁶ thus initiating the long partnership of Wintjen and Helms--German immigrants who had both arrived in Jacksonville around 1856. The new partners immediately set themselves up as saloon-keepers in the building.⁷

In 1860, Wintjen and Helms decided to expand and rebuild their establishment. They therefore purchased from John Long and Charles Lucke a piece of land which lay along the north side of the existing building.⁸ James McCully had acquired the land from William and Horace Ish⁹ and had then sold it to Henry Bletcher and John Long.¹⁰ Bletcher, a Prussian immigrant who had arrived in Jacksonville in 1852, was one of the town's first butchers.¹¹

When they acquired the additional land from Long and Lucke, Wintjen and Helms also purchased a half interest in a section of the north wall of the McCully Building; this section was sixty feet long--the length of the building--but only one story high. They intended to use it as a party wall and to insert the ceiling joists of their building into it.¹²

TABLE ROCK BILLIARD SALOON (FACADE)
HABS No. ORE-123 (Page 2)

Wintjen and Helms leased part of their building to Max Brentano, who advertised his tobacco and cigar business as "Brentano's Old Stand."¹³ In their saloon, the partners kept a "Cabinet" or museum display case "which contains many curiosities not duplicated in any other Cabinet on the Coast."¹⁴ The Table Rock Saloon closed in 1914, when Jacksonville was well past its prime.¹⁵ The interior of the building was gutted by fire in 1960, leaving only the facade.

FOOTNOTES

1

Kuchel and Dressel, "Jacksonville, Jackson County, Oregon T[erritory]," 1856. This view of the town was distributed locally by C.C. Beekman and W.W. Fowler.

2

Stephen Dow Beckham, Requiem for a People: The Rogue Indians and the Frontiersmen (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1971), pp. 8, 38, 78.

3

Jackson County Deeds, May 5, 1857.

4

Ibid., May 5, 1857.

5

Ibid., May 8, 1857.

6

Ibid., September 6, 1858.

7

A.G. Walling, History of Southern Oregon, Comprising Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry, and Coos Counties (Portland, Oregon: The Publishing House of A.G. Walling, 1884), biographical appendix.

8

Jackson County Deeds, August 30, 1860.

9

Ibid., April 22, 1857.

10

Ibid., August 25, 1857. Bletcher sold his share in the property to Karl [Charles] Lucke on December 20, 1858.

- 11 Walling, History of Southern Oregon, biographical appendix.
- 12 Jackson County Deeds, August 30, 1860.
- 13 The Oregon Intelligencer, January 23, 1863.
- 14 The West Shore (Portland, Oregon), August, 1883.
- 15 Unnamed newspaper, September 22, 1914, in Oregon Historical Society, Scrap Book 53, p. 178.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. Description of Exterior:

1. Number of stories: The facade is one story.
2. Number of bays: Front (west) facade is six bays wide.
3. Layout, shape: The building was rectangular.
4. Wall construction, finish, color: The facade wall is brick which has been painted white.
5. Openings: All of the openings were originally doorways, separated by square piers. The piers have brick bases of two projecting courses and capitals with a two-course abacus supported by two stepped-back courses; a brick necking marks the bottom of each capital. The arches are composed of two courses with headers set on edge, surmounted by a projecting ring of headers laid flat. Brick keystones drop slightly below the intrados. A corbelled band of brickwork runs above the arches. The doorways had semicircular transom lights divided into radial patterns of panes; the doors were double, each leaf having a wooden panel below two panels of glass.
6. Roof:
 - a. The roof was hidden behind a parapet.

TABLE ROCK BILLIARD SALOON (FACADE)
HABS No. ORE-123 (Page 4)

- b. Cornice: The parapet has an entablature topped by a balustrade-like motif in brick. A single row of bricks projects to mark the base of the frieze. A dentil course is composed of pairs of headers set on edge. Three projecting brick courses top the dentil course. The plane of the wall continues upward to the base of the balustrade.

B. Description of Interior:

The interior was gutted by fire in 1960.

C. Site and surroundings:

The west facade faces South Oregon Street. The building sits between two two-story brick buildings.

Prepared by Marion D. Ross
Department of Art History
University of Oregon

and Christopher Owens
George Washington University
1971

Edited by Ursula Theobald
Writer-Editor
Historic American Buildings
Survey
1976